

Appl. No. 10/033,085
Amdt. Dated June 28, 2004
Reply to Office Action of March 1, 2004

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (amended) An easily monitorable monitorable fluid delivery system comprising a fluid container having fluid including an upper surface defining the liquid level therein, a cannula assembly and a fluid delivery means, said container having see-through walls and adapted for suspension for delivery of the fluid contained therein through an outlet having a liquid fluid barrier seal, said cannula assembly having a hollow tube including an upper end adapted for communication with the fluid in said container and a lower end operatively associated with said fluid delivery means, said tube upper end having a separable portion of a lower specific gravity than that of said fluid and adapted to float at the liquid fluid upper surface and be clearly visible through said container walls once said portion is passed through said seal and thereafter separated from said tube so as to form a fluid level monitoring float and wherein

Appl. No. 10/033,085
Amdt. Dated June 28, 2004
Reply to Office Action of March 1, 2004

said separable tube portion has a sharpened upper end for piercing said fluid barrier seal.

Claim 2 (previously presented) The fluid delivery system of Claim 1, wherein said tube upper end separable portion is connected to said tube by a weakened line.

Claim 3 (previously presented) The fluid delivery system of Claim 2, wherein said weakened line being a circumferential score at the juncture of said tube upper end and said separable portion.

Claim 4. (canceled)

Claim 5 (amended) The fluid delivery system of Claim [[4]] 1, wherein said separable tube portion is hollow and terminates in an open sharpened upper surface.

Claim 6 (amended) The fluid delivery system of Claim [[4]] 1, wherein said separable tube portion is partially hollow and terminates in a closed upper surface.

Claim 7 (previously presented) The fluid delivery system of Claim 1, wherein said separable tube portion is made of a plastic material.

Appl. No. 10/033,085
Am dt. Dated June 28, 2004
Reply to Office Action of March 1, 2004

Claim 8 (amended) The fluid delivery system of Claim [[4]] Z, wherein said tube and said separable tube portion are simultaneously injection molded of the same plastic material.

Claim 9 (previously presented) The fluid delivery system of Claim 1, wherein the fluid container is in the form of a pouch having opposed planar side panels formed of flexible plastic sheet material.

Claim 10 (previously presented) The fluid delivery system of Claim 9, wherein the container is an IV bag.

Claim 11 (amended) A cannula assembly adapted for use with an I V bag containing fluid and having flexible see-through side panels and a lower fluid outlet having a barrier seal, said cannula assembly having a hollow tube including an upper end adapted for communication with the fluid in the bag and a separable portion connected to said tube upper end, said separable portion having a sharp upper end which is adapted to pass through said barrier seal and thereafter separated from said tube upper end so as to place said tube upper end in communication with the fluid in the bag, said separable portion formed of a material having a lower specific gravity than the fluid within the bag such that the separable portion forms a fluid level monitoring float which floats on the upper surface of the fluid within the bag.

Appl. No. 10/033,085
Am dt. Dated June 28, 2004
Reply to Office Action of March 1, 2004

Claim 12 (previously presented) The cannula assembly of Claim 11, wherein said separable portion is formed of plastic.

Claim 13 (amended) The cannula assembly of Claim 12, wherein the separable portion is colored visually of a contrasting appearance to the visual appearance of the fluid within the bag.

Claim 14 (previously presented) The method of placing a float upon the liquid level surface of a fluid contained within a container of the type including flexible see-through opposed side walls and having an outlet having a liquid barrier seal with a cannula assembly having a hollow tube including an upper end adapted for communication with the fluid contained within the container and wherein the tube upper end further includes a separable portion having a sharpened upper end and formed of a material with a lower specific gravity than that of the fluid within the container, the steps comprising: forcing the sharpened upper end through the barrier to a position where the upper end of the tube is above the barrier, grasping the container side walls so as to grasp the separable portion and then removing the separable portion from the tube and releasing the separable portion.

Claim 15 (previously presented) The method of Claim 14, wherein the separable portion and tube are connected to each other along a weakened

Appl. No. 10/033,085
Am dt. Dated June 28, 2004
Reply to Office Action of March 1, 2004

circumferential line and the separable portion is broken off the tube with the grasping action.

Claim 16 (new) The method of Claim 14 , wherein the separable portion is of a visually contrasting appearance to that of the fluid.

Claim 17 (new) The fluid delivery system of Claim 6, wherein said separable tube portion is a separate cap member frictionally positioned with respect to said tube upper end.

Claim 18 (new) The fluid delivery system of Claim 17, wherein the separable tube portion is at least partially hollow and is positioned over said tube upper end.

Claim 19 (new) The fluid delivery system of Claim 17, wherein the separable tube portion is solid and includes downwardly extending connecting means for temporarily connecting said separable tube portion with said tube upper end.

Claim 20 (new) The fluid delivery system of Claim 1, wherein said separable tube portion has a visual appearance contrasting with the fluid in the container.

Appl. No. 10/033,085
Amdt. Dated June 28, 2004
Reply to Office Action of March 1, 2004

Claim 21 (new) The fluid delivery system of Claim 1, wherein said container has no internal obstructions to prevent movement of said separable portion such that said separable portion floats to the surface of the fluid.